

## REMARKS

The Office Action mailed July 19, 2007 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1, 3-13, and 39-45 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-13 stand rejected. Claims 2 and 14-38 have been canceled. Claims 39-46 are newly added. No additional fee is due for newly added Claims 39-46.

The present amendment is intended to place the application in condition for allowance by canceling non-elected Claims 14-38. Applicants wish to emphasize that the cancellation of Claims 14-38 is without prejudice.

The rejection of Claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,611,839 to Nwabueze is respectfully traversed.

Nwabueze describes a method for acquiring and presenting data for business analysis by extracting, organizing, formatting, and presenting data from various data sources. The data can be presented in a two dimensional form (e.g., using spreadsheets or tables) or in a multi-dimensional form (e.g., using cubes). Multi-dimensional data presentation is done via an online analytical processing (OLAP) system which can represent any number of descriptive categories or business metrics and quantitative values. A data acquisition engine acquires 112 the desired data from the various data sources and stores each file of the acquired data in an individual storage file as raw data. A pre-processing engine then verifies 116 the integrity of the acquired data in each individual storage file. A data transforming engine then converts 118 the pre-processed data from the various data sources and varying data formats to a uniform format and maps the data to a temporary database. A data aggregating engine then organizes 120 the processed data for use in a desired report. More specifically, a user can modify an existing report or create a new report through a menu-driven interview format using drop-down menus and/or selection buttons. The generated reports can be displayed using charts, tables, and/or spreadsheets. Notably, Nwabueze does

not describe nor suggest displaying a status of the business metrics using a plurality of gauges for visually indicating a status of a respective business metric.

Claim 1 recites a method for processing business metrics information in a system including a server, and at least one user device and a database communicably communicatively coupled to the server. The method includes “receiving operating and financial data for a business . . . processing the data to generate business metrics . . . comparing the business metrics to pre-defined parameters . . . displaying a status of the business metrics using a plurality of gauges for visually indicating a status of a respective business metric.”

Nwabueze does not describe nor suggest a method for processing business metrics information, as recited in Claim 1. More specifically, Nwabueze does not describe nor suggest displaying a status of the business metrics using a plurality of gauges for visually indicating a status of a respective business metric. Rather, Nwabueze describes reports that are displayed using charts, tables, and/or spreadsheets.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Nwabueze.

Claim 2 has been canceled. Claims 3-13 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 3-13 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 3-13 likewise are patentable over Nwabueze.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-13 be withdrawn.

Newly added Claim 46 depends from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claim 46 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that Claim 46 likewise is patentable over Nwabueze.

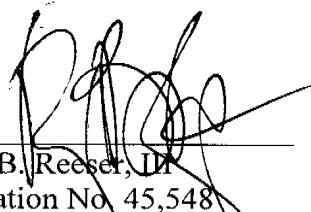
With respect to newly added Claim 39, Applicants respectfully submit that Nwabueze does not describe nor suggest a business metrics management system including at least one

server configured to transmit a status of the business metrics to at least one user operated device for display using a plurality of gauges for visually indicating a status of a respective business metric. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 39 is patentable over Nwabueze.

Newly added Claims 40-45 depend from newly added independent Claim 39. When the recitations of Claims 40-45 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 39, Applicants submit that Claims 40-45 likewise are patentable over Nwabueze.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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